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The Athenian Mercury.

Tuesday, *October* 23. 1694

Queſt. 1. I *Deſire your Opinion, whether Love, (ſuch as is between human Creatures) be a good or evil to us? And which is moſt laudable, to place it upon Mankind, or ſome other object, as Fame,* &c.

Anſw. Next to *Being* it ſelf, the capacity of Loving is the greateſt gift that God has beſtowed upon Man, ſince by that Faculty only he is fitted for the Enjoyment of all outward goods. And the more noble and excellent the object is, ſo much is it the more capable of giving us an extenſive and durable happineſs; therefore the Love of each other is preferable to that of Honours, Fame or Riches. And our inconſtancy and ill Choice is the Reaſon why it is ſo indifferently reliſht amongſt us.

Queſt. 2. *Dear Gentlemen* Athenians, *the laſt Refuge of Diſtreſſed Ladies, aſſiſt me in my Languiſh, and tell me what Devil it is that has poſſeſſed me; It would be filly to mince the matter. I am an* Old Maid, *of* 42 *years, and to my Eternal Diſgrace and Torture, I doubt I ſhall continue ſo. I have Courted every one, that there was any probability of getting, beſides giving every one the opportunity of Courting me, but never had ſo much as one offer in all my Life time, either in Jeſt or Earneſt; and becauſe I thought there might be ſomething in my Stars that was uncommon, and that I was not deſign'd for my equals, I puſht on for Perſons of Quality, but the Devil an Inch of any of 'em that I could catch; Now having ſuch an irreconcilable* averſion for an Old Maiden-head, *I was reſolv'd, ſince I could not Barter mine away, to give, Pawn, or lend it upon any Account, and have for theſe laſt ſix Weeks walkt the Streets on purpoſe to be* pickt up, *but was never ſo much as askt the Queſtion by a dirty Carman or Porter, till laſt Night; you may aſſure your ſelf I thankt God very Heartily, but could ſcarce believe my ſenſes; ſometimes doubting whether my Companion was Human, and ſometimes Superſtitiouſly imagining that 'twas an Angel that would ſoon impregnate me with a New Off-ſpring of Beings, and that Mankind was by ſome over-ruling Power forbid to enjoy me, as reſerv'd for ſuch an end; but ſuch an unhappy deceiv'd wretch was I, that I had no ſooner entred into a Publick-Houſe with my Gallant, and expreſs'd ſome little tenderneſs and encouragement to my Tempter, but out he pulls a* Conſtables Staff *(no good Characteriſtic of Generation) and by a Treackerous Authority, hurries me away to a Magiſtrate, who ſent me to* Bridewel, *tho I proteſted* I never deſerv'd any thing of that Nature; *Nay, I could hardly forbear offering his Juſtice-ſhip the tryal of my Virginity. Now, Gentlemen, I have ſome Acquaintance in Town, that I am unwilling to let know where I am. I have a great mind to ſteal ſo much Hemp as will make a little Rope, to Hang my ſelf out of the way, but that I am afraid I ſhall be jeer'd and jeſted upon in another World, and perhaps lead Apes in Hell, if there's any thing in that old ſaying. Pray your ſpeedy Advice what to do, and how to behave my ſelf in theſe my misfortunes, amongſt which, I have freely told you the greateſt,* and you will be very kind to yours, *&c.*

Anſw. Indeed yours is a very ſad condition, was it not alleviated with an happineſs you have over-lookt, poſſibly becauſe your Maiden-head hangs in your Light) 'tis this, ſince you can't Enjoy what you would, to avoid the ſcandal of an Old Maid, be content with your preferment, Work hard, keep your own Counſel and Cheat the Ingrateful Age with the Honourable Title of a Whore, which by vertue of your Beating Hemp, and the Authority of your Commitment you may very well pretend to.

Queſt. 3. *If any perſon Owes more Mony than he is able to pay, and ſees an Object of Charity, if he gives a Penny or half Penny, whether this be a Charitable Act in him, or not?* B. C——

Anſw. If he intends to pay his Debts as ſoon as poſſibly he can, and omits no oppertunity that may put him into a capacity of doing ſo; and what he gives, does not hinder this Deſign, but is merely to grant ſome aſſiſtance to another Perſon in Diſtreſs, ſince a Penny or half-penny may ſometimes help a poor wretch that wants Bread, and yet can do little or nothing towards the diſcharging his Debts; therefore when thus he only intends to take from himſelf, 'tis without doubt a Principle of Charity that excites him to it. But if on the contrary, he never intends to Pay, 'tis a ſort of Robbery, and proceeds either from Vanity, or elſe to gratify a little Pity he has in his Nature, and not out of any good deſign.

Queſt. 4. *Did not* Origen *hold the Opinion of the* Antropomorphites?

Anſ. 'Tis true, he was Accuſed of it, both by St. *Jerom* and *Theophilus* of *Alexandria*; but 'twas a miſtake, for he refutes that very Error in his Books of *Principles*, and in the eighth Book he wrote againſt *Celſus*; Nay, he was ſo far from being of their Opinion, that to deſtroy the proof they brought from this paſſage, *Our Father which art in Heaven*; and others the like, he explains after a Metaphorical manner. Heaven he calls the ſtate of Glory, and Earth that of Abaſement; or ſtill more Allegorically, he ſays, Heaven is Jeſus Chriſt, *who is the Throne of God*, and the Church, the Earth his Footſtool.

Queſt. 5. *I deſire your Sentiments upon the* 29*th verſe of the* 15. *chap. of the firſt of* Cor. Elſe what ſhall they do, which are Baptized for the Dead, if the Dead riſe not at all: Why are they then Baptized for the Dead?

Anſw. It might have been very well rendered from the Original, *What ſhall they do that are Baptized over the Dead?* &c. It being a cuſtom amongſt the Primitive Chriſtians to Baptiſe their Proſelites over the Graves of the Dead, deſigning by that Ceremony to repreſent their being Crucified with Chriſt, to the Pleaſures and Enjoyments of this World, and in a certain hopes of a Reſurrection to a better Life, by Vertue of the Reſurrection of Jeſus Chriſt their Head; but this paſſage has been ſomewhere elſe more largely explain'd in our former Volumes.

Queſt. 6. *I deſire your Opinion, if Painting in Men is not much more Antick than in Women?*

Anſ. Yes, Becauſe it helps neither Feature or Air; and as for a Fair Complexion, it only makes a Man look more like a Fool.

Queſt. 7. *A Young Man* (ſomething related to me) *coming up to* London, *bound himſelf Apprentice to a Working Tradeſman for ſeven Years; The Young Mans Father and Mother being both Dead, he had a ſmall Sum of Money left him, but not ſo much as his Maſter required; he agreed with him to give ſome Money, and to Cloath himſelf all his Time, with this Proviſo: That his Maſter would allow him over-work; his promiſing Maſter is very unwilling to give him Over-work, and the Young Man having ſerv'd Five Years of his time, has nothing left him; ſo that now he is reduced to great Want of Cloaths: Now ought not his Maſter to give him Cloaths the reſt of his time? I hope your Opinion may prevail with him.*

Anſw.

Answ. If he's an Honeſt Man he will either do that, or ſtand to his firſt Agreement: Nay, had he made no ſuch Covenant with him, we think if the young Man Serves him faithfully, he ought not to ſuffer him to want.

Queſt. 7. *You have formerly given us ſome Account of the Opinions and Eccleſiaſtical Cuſtoms of* Georgia, *but never yet, as I have met with, any thing about their Politicks, or what Power their Clergy have, which I deſire you would be pleaſed to do at your Leiſure?*

Anſw. Their Princes are Abſolute, and Treat the Eccleſiaſticks with as much haughtineſs as the reſt of their Subjects: In the Election of Patriarchs they give their ſuffrage with the Biſhops, and it is of ſo great weight, that they generally chooſe whomſoever the Prince Nominates. There is no form of Juſtice, the Will of the *Prince* ſerves inſtead of Laws to all the *Province*, and thoſe of each Lord in the Territories of his Juriſdiction. They uſe their Subjects like Slaves, and take not only their Goods from them when they pleaſe, but even ſell them alſo, without regarding whether he that buys them is a Chriſtian or not. Every one revenges himſelf of his Enemy as well as he can; and if he cannot injure him in his perſon, he'll do it in his Goods, Lands or Houſe, never regarding Juſtice at all. *Georgia* is poſſeſſed by divers *Princes*, who are not very well united together, nor have they any need of the Aſſiſtance of one another.

Advertiſement.

THE 16000 *l.* Lottery will be drawn by Licenſe, upon the 6th of *Novemb.* next, and the Books cloſed upon the 2d. of the ſame Month. The Odds of Blanks againſt a *Prize* are not 10 to 1. The Tickets will be all drawn out againſt an equal number of Blanks and *Prizes*. The Benefit Lots will be paid by the Receivers, from whom the Tickets were firſt taken, within ſeven days after the Lottery is drawn, without any further delay, or trouble to the Adventurers. Several Books are already full; the Subſcribers therefore are deſired to bring in their Money forthwith, and take out their Tickets, leſt they come too late, or be transfer'd, to ſome other Book.

At the Golden-Ball in St. Jones's Court, *near* Clarkenwel, *Lives Doctor* Moſſe,

WHO hath Obtained the only moſt Sovereign and excellent Cure for the Gout, *Viz.* A Balſam which in a moments time takes away the *Pain*, be it never ſo exquiſite and intollerable, ſtrengthening and reſtoring the Joynts or Members Afflicted, to their perfect Vigour, Form and Motions, the ſaid Balſam, with a Box of *Pills*, being the moſt Abſolute Specificks for Curing and Defending both Internal and External *Parts*, from that Miſerable Diſtemper, ever yet publiſhed or made manifeſt by any.

THE Good *Angel*, or new Adventure of 10 s. Propoſals to be ſeen at moſt *Coffee-Houſes* about the *Exchange* viz. For 10 s. to draw againſt 1000 benefits, from 5 *l.* to 1000 *l.* or the ſame in proportion to 10000 *l.* on the 14*th* of *Novemb.* next; or (if full) ſooner. The drawing, &c. will all be performed in one day, in ſight of the Truſtees and others concerned, by a New-invented, but plain method, approv'd, and without exception. The Benefits will be printed the day following, and the Priſes all paid in ready Money without delay, by Mr. *Hen. Lambe* and Mr. *Rich. Neltkrop*, Goldſmiths, in *Lombard-ſtreet*, where the Tickets are delivered out, at 10 s. a peice, and Propoſals may be had.

Gentlemen, You have here the moſt plain and incouraging propoſal of this kind; and you that are Shopkeepers, or that wiſh them well, have an opportunity to ſhew your kindneſs to thoſe who have long ſpent their time and money in faithful Endeavours to ſerve you: And the profit of this Adventure (if it be full) is intended in part, to Pay, Re-imburſe, and Incourage ſuch ſervice to the Publick, as has not, nor ever can be done without Money: Yet there wants not ſome Indeavours to miſrepreſent and hinder this good deſign; and yet for their own private intereſt, does ſupport and protect Offenders, both againſt the Laws, and the publick Intereſt of this Kingd m, as moſt plainly may be ſeen by ſeveral Books and Papers publiſhed on that occaſion, and now at the ſaid Godſmiths in *Lombard-ſtreet*.

IN *George-yard*, at the Sign of the *Golden-Ball*, by *Lombard-ſtreet*, there are taught, by *George Keith*, Arithmetick, Geometry, Aſtronomy, Navigation, Surveying, Dialling, Algebra, and other parts of Mathematical Learning.

ANy Perſons concern'd in the Million Adventure, that deſire to know whether their Numbers be drawn, may be ſatisfied from the firſt drawing, every day during the time of drawing, if they ſend the numbers of their Tickets in writing any time before 7 of the Clock at Night to the places hereafter named, leaving 2*d.* for each five numbers, and ſo proportionable for a greater Number, which Numbers are examin'd, and anſwer'd, and may be had at the ſame places, by 9 of the Clock each ſucceeding morning.

Places appointed to receeive them are the *Cumberland* Coffee-Houſe at *Charing-Croſs*, *Tom's* Coffee-houſe in *Princes-ſtreet*, *Covent-garden*, *Squire's* Royal Coffee-houſe in *Fullers Rents*, *Holbourn*, *Pembertons* Coffee-Houſe in *Red Lyon-Court* in *Fleetſtreet*, *John's* Coffee-houſe, next door to the Nags-head Tavern in *Cheapſide*, and at the *Jamaica* Coffee-Houſe in St. *Miles Ally Cornhil*.

*** There is a parcel of Spruce Beer, juſt as it came from *Dantzig* lately, and very Good, to be Sold either Whole-ſale, or Retail, at very reaſonable Rates, at the ſign of the Peſtle and Mortar, againſt *Bedford-houſe in the Strand*.

At *Guild-hall* Coffee-houſe, againſt *St. Laurance's* Church, is an extraordinary Collection of Pictures to be Sold by way of Auction, beginning next *Wedneſday*, being the 24th of *October*. To be Sold by *Chriſtopher Goodman*, begining at 5 in the Evening,

The Monthly Double Chance,

FOr Ready mony, to be Drawn at twice: In the firſt Drawing 796 l. And in the ſecond Drawing 204 l. No Tickets will be delivered out after the 20th of *November* 1694. And if full, it will be drawn ſooner.

Tickets and Propoſals may be had of Mr. *Harriſon*, at the *Hen and Chickens*, Mr. *Kegdall* at the *Kings-Head* in *Cheapſide*, Mr. *Clement* at the *Seven Stars* in *Newgate-ſtreet*, Mr. *Cole* over-againſt St. *Dunſtan's* Church in *Fleet-ſtreet*, Mr. *Bowman* at the *Flower-de-luce* near the *New Exchange* in the *Strand*, Mr. *Lloyds* Coffee-houſe in *Lombardſtreet*, Mr. *Sanders* at the *Carliſle-Coffee-houſe* in *Kings-ſtreet* near *Guild-hall*, Mr. *Coleman* over-againſt the *King's Brewhouſe* by the *Hermitage* near St. *Catharines*, Gold-ſmith.

Whereas ſeveral have carried on thingt of this kind without Leave, we thought fit to Inſert that this was fixed by Advice of Council Learn'd in the Law before t was publiſh'd.

Walter Lloyd at the *Antient Fowler* in *Tower-ſtreet*, *London*, Sells the Fineſt, Strongeſt Glaz'd, or not Glaz'd Gun-Powder, which by the Experience of ſeveral Perſons of Quality and others hath conſiderably out done any other Gun-powder yet made; the ſaid Strong Gun-powder, and all other ſorts of Gun-powder is Sold by him at very reaſonable Rates.

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